<u>**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**</u>

Please add the following paragraph on page 3 after paragraph 8:

In October 2000, Forest Research published the IT term XInternet, which stands for executable Internet and which proposes dynamic Rich Internet Application (RIA) as opposed to Internet static web pages.

Please replace paragraph 15 on page 4 with the following amended paragraph:

Desktop applications are simply programs that are installed and run on a PC. Many of ~~your~~ the old desktop applications are built from a variety of generic technologies (such as spreadsheets and database management systems). The industry is currently overflowing with millions of such legacy applications that are reaching the end of their life cycle.

Please replace paragraph 64 starting on page 16 with the following amended paragraph:

According to the present invention, there is provided a distributed fabrication system for creating, while promoting strategic alignment between information technology departments and business units' objectives, a business application compatible with XInternet technologies via a communication network, the fabrication system comprising:

a client workstation connectable to the communication network, the workstation having a browser interface;

a software factory displayed in the browser interface through which a user fabricates the business application in response to business need specifications, the software factory being displayed in the browser interface from factory building files, the software factory comprising:

a first tool for defining a solution containing the business application, the first tool comprising components for entering solution parameters;

a second tool for constructing the solution using business models in relation with the solution parameters, the second tool comprising components for designing basic characteristics of the solution and a business domain model of the business application having a main entity and related entities, the main entity establishing relationships with the related entities, the main entity and the related entities having attributes and actions, the second tool also comprising components for designing a menu of the business application, specific functions of the business application, and functional descriptions of the business application;

a third tool for validating the solution, the third tool comprising components for previewing the solution <u>online</u> by automatically generating a working prototype of the business application using dynamic database simulation means for testing the working prototype of the business application <u>online</u> and communication components for feedback messages between users testing the <u>online</u> working prototype of the business application and users constructing the solution; and

a fourth tool for generating code <u>offline, said code</u> forming an initial and operational version of the business application to be supplied as a normalized input to a regular desktop development system; and

a web server connectable to the communication network, the web server providing the factory building files and controlling the software factory displayed in the browser interface of the workstation.

Please replace paragraph 79 starting on page 21 with the following amended paragraph:

According to the present invention, there is also provided an applicative framework system supplying a generic dynamically adaptable N-Tier client-server object-oriented applicative infrastructure constructed on top of a third party software system infrastructure to support [[a]] an online business application compatible with XInternet technologies via a communication network, the third party software system infrastructure being complemented by a database management system components, the applicative framework system comprising:

a client workstation connectable to the communication network, the workstation having a browser interface;

a web server connectable to the communication network;

a business server connectable to the communication network;

a database server connectable to the communication network; and

an applicative framework comprising generic adaptable software structures for the creation of the online business application on any specific technology platform using the web server, the business server and the database server on which the business application is fabricated, developed, tested and deployed, the applicative framework also comprising:

user services for managing a business application user interface, relying on a XInternet one web page application pattern, on a workstation having a browser interface to access the business application online from the web server on which business application web services are deployed, the business application user interface being a dynamic web page avoiding web page transitions for user experience, the user services comprising one

web page application components library for displaying the business application user interface on said browser interface and for communicating between the business application user interface displayed in said browser interface and the business application web services deployed on the web server, the one web page application components library providing bi-directional communications between said workstation and said web server;

business services for managing business application logic and communications between the business application online web services, the business services being implemented on the business server, the applicative framework and system components of the third party software system infrastructure, the business services comprising generic adaptable components having interface application components, core application components, utility application components and task application components being used to insure code reusability, adaptability, uniformity, isolation, stability, robustness, scalability and performance; and

data services for managing online business application data access logic and communications between the business services and the third party database management system components on the database server upon request of the business server on which the business services are implemented, the data services comprising generic adaptable database access components having database scripts to automatically assist the creation of application database tables and stored procedures required to access and manage application data on the database server.

Please replace paragraph 85 starting on page 23 with the following amended paragraph:

According to still another object of the present invention, there is also provided a distributed software fabrication process for creating, while promoting strategic alignment between information technologies departments and business units objectives, a business application compatible with XInternet technologies via a communication network, the software fabrication process comprising the steps of:

displaying a software factory through a browser interface of a client workstation connectable to the communication network, the software factory allowing a user to fabricate the business application in response to business need specifications, the software factory being displayed in the browser interface from factory building files;

providing the factory building files from a web server to the client workstation and controlling the software factory displayed in the browser interface of the client workstation;

defining a solution containing the business application via the software factory, the software factory comprising a first tool having components for entering solution parameters;

constructing the solution using business models in relation with the solution parameters via the software factory, the software factory comprising a second tool having components for designing basic characteristics of the solution and a business domain model of the business application having a main entity and related entities, the main entity establishing relationships with the related entities, the main entity and the related entities having attributes and actions, the second tool also comprising components for designing a menu of the business application,

specific functions of the business application, and functional descriptions of the business application;

validating the solution via the software factory, the software factory comprising a third tool having components for previewing the solution <u>online</u> by automatically generating a working prototype of the business application using dynamic database simulation means for testing the working prototype of the business application <u>online</u> and communication components for feedback messages between users testing the <u>online</u> working prototype of the business application and users constructing the solution;

determining a state of operability and profitability of the solution by following a project go/no go type workflow to reduce cost and time for project definition and approval and to improve strategic alignment between information technologies and business units objectives; and

generating code <u>offline</u> via the software factory to form an initial and operational version of the business application to be supplied as a normalized input to a regular desktop development system, the code forming the business application comprising an applicative framework supplying a generic dynamically adaptable N-Tier client-server object-oriented applicative infrastructure constructed on top of a third party software system infrastructure to support the business application on any specific technology platform.